

Memorandum

TO: BUILDING BETTER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

FROM: James R. Helmer

**SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND
FUNDING ALTERNATIVES**

DATE: 04-22-05

Approved 

Date 4/25/05

RECOMMENDATION

Accept report on transportation needs and funding alternatives and provide input to staff on recommended policy direction.

BACKGROUND

The condition of the City of San José's transportation infrastructure is deteriorating. Current funding investments are not sufficient to adequately maintain, operate, and improve the system in accordance with City goals and community expectations.

At past meetings of the Building Better Transportation Committee held on September 13, 2004 and December 6, 2004, staff presented reports on the declining condition of the City's transportation infrastructure with a particular focus on pavement maintenance needs. The Committee subsequently directed staff to report back on funding alternatives in general and specifically on the potential for pursuing pavement maintenance work as part of private development projects.

This report addresses the broader topic of transportation needs and funding alternatives, and includes the specific topic of developer funding for street resurfacing (Item C1 on the Committee Agenda).

ANALYSIS

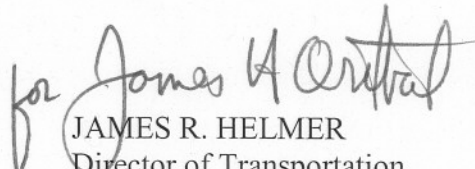
The Department of Transportation has prepared an initial draft report on "San José Transportation Needs and Funding Strategies" (attached). The report documents the declining condition of the City's transportation infrastructure, identifies the key issues that contribute to the problem, and explores options to address the challenge. The intent of the report is to stimulate discussion among City officials towards the development of an appropriate plan of action.

The key issues include: 1) declining transportation investment, 2) increased costs, 3) expanding infrastructure, 4) growing demands, and 5) pavement maintenance as being the most serious challenge. In summary, the City is facing a transportation funding shortfall that totals:

- \$30 million shortfall for annual operating and maintenance costs
 - \$22 million for pavement maintenance
 - \$1.1 million for traffic signal systems
 - \$0.3 million for roadway markings and striping
 - \$1.2 million for sidewalk repair
 - \$0.4 million for street light maintenance
 - \$1.1 million for street landscaping
 - \$1.5 million for tree trimming
 - \$0.4 million for traffic signage
 - \$2.0 million for Downtown and NBD cleaning and maintenance
- \$370 million for one-time rehabilitation and capital improvement costs
 - \$209 million for pavement maintenance
 - \$20 million for street reconstruction
 - \$18 million for curb and gutter repair
 - \$31 million for new street lighting
 - \$50 million for curb ramps
 - \$26 million for median island landscaping
 - \$16 million for traffic signal system rehabilitation

Chapter 3 of the report provides a discussion of six possible legislative and regional actions that can be considered to help address the issue, all of which are currently being pursued. In addition, seven local options are identified and evaluated.

At the Committee meeting, staff proposes to provide a presentation covering the highlights of the report. Staff recommends that the Committee provide feedback to staff on the contents of the draft report and provide further direction on "next steps" towards addressing the City's transportation funding needs.


JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

Attachment